

NINETY-NINTH LEGISLATURE

FIRST SESSION

LEGISLATIVE RESOLUTION 125

Introduced by Friend, 10; Erdman, 47; Foley, 29; Jensen, 20;
Langemeier, 23; Redfield, 12; Schimek, 27

WHEREAS, in October 1879 the Nebraska band program was founded within the military department of the University of Nebraska; and

WHEREAS, under the direction of Samuel B. Hohman, the University of Nebraska Military Cadet Band made its first official performance in April 1880 at the military department's annual dress parade; and

WHEREAS, in 1893 the first "halftime" show was performed during a football game at the suggestion of the university's military commander, Lt. John J. Pershing; and

WHEREAS, following World War I, when the university's military department was reorganized into the Reserve Officer Training Corps, the band became known as the R.O.T.C. Band; and

WHEREAS, during Billy Quick's tenure as director from 1918 to 1937, the band began performing as a concert ensemble as well as marching unit; and

WHEREAS, in 1927 John Philip Sousa presented a silver cup to the Nebraska band as a reward for attaining the United States War Department's "Blue Star Rating" for meeting exemplary

standards; and

WHEREAS, in 1938 the band became independent of the university's military department; and

WHEREAS, Band Day flourished under the direction of director Donald Lenz and included high school bands from across Nebraska who performed at halftime of one of the Nebraska football games each year from the 1920s until 1971; and

WHEREAS, director Jack R. Snider introduced the solo twirler to the band in 1961 and Dr. Robert A. Fought ushered women into the band in 1974 through Title IX and also introduced the flag line to audiences in 1975; and

WHEREAS, in 1996 the Cornhusker Marching Band was the recipient of the prestigious Sudler Trophy presented by the John Philip Sousa Foundation for excellence and leadership in collegiate marching bands; and

WHEREAS, the University of Nebraska's marching and concert ensembles have performed in front of national and international audiences; and

WHEREAS, the University of Nebraska Band Program has provided superior musical experiences and life-long fellowship for generations of student musicians and has served as a steadfast exemplar of school spirit and tradition throughout its 125-year history; and

WHEREAS, that through the leadership of many directors and the involvement of countless student musicians, the University of Nebraska Band Program celebrates its 125th Anniversary.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE MEMBERS OF THE NINETY-NINTH LEGISLATURE OF NEBRASKA, FIRST SESSION:

1. That the Legislature celebrates the history and accomplishments of one of the finest collegiate band programs in the country.

2. That a copy of this resolution be sent to the University of Nebraska-Lincoln School of Music.